

Bossier chamber holds its 60th annual meeting

January 23, 2008

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The Bossier Chamber of Commerce honored its 2007 Outstanding Business and Outstanding Business Person of the Year during its 60th annual meeting and banquet Tuesday evening at Horseshoe Casino and Hotel in Bossier City.

Consider the Lilies, owned by Eddie Colvin, is the 2007 Outstanding Business of the year. Gene Elliott, who owns Insty-Prints, is the Outstanding Business Person of the Year.

Colvin opened Consider the Lilies in March 2002. Since then, the retail flower shop has grown significantly, he said.

"We have experienced phenomenal growth over the past six years. Last year, our gross sales grew by 30 percent. And we should finish this year as our best ever."

Elliott, a Nashville, Tenn., native, and her husband, Jim, opened Insty-Prints in the late 1970s.

After the duo evaluated 23 markets in the Southeast, they selected Shreveport because they felt the city offered more opportunities.

The printing business will earn about \$2 million in sales in its 27th year, Elliott said.

Other Outstanding Business of the Year nominees include Azarue's Bridal & Formal, Harrah's Louisiana Downs and Horseshoe Casino & Hotel and [Stirling Properties Inc.](#)

Also nominated for Business Person of the Year were Sandy Bakalyar, of Memorable Client Mailings, Gretchen Booth, of the Louisiana Restaurant Association, U.L. Coleman, of U.L. Coleman Cos., Caleb R. Hill, of Hill Real Estate, and Danny Alan Northcutt, of Louisiana Country & Gospel Music.

Also at the event, past chamber President Doyle Adams addressed the crowd of more than 500 members, public officials and business leaders about the chamber's growth and success.

In addition, he urged business leaders to continue to build strong relationships with the community, as those relationships remain important to a successful future of the Bossier area, he said.

"Just look at the positive programs made by the Bossier Chamber of Commerce," Adams said. "It shows us that building strong business and community relationships has value. People must see value in businesses doing their part in the growth of our community."

This year's president-elect, Gary Hubbard, also addressed the group about his eagerness to lead the chamber.

"Gary Hubbard will provide excellent leadership in this organization going forward," Adams said. "We're going to do great things."

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January 23, 2008

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